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E & P.H. (1948) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 664 P.H.

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Dated 3-3-1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Epidemics - Yellow Fever - Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever - Revised plan - Papers from the Government of India - Recorded.

Confidential

5-PH(II)
Government of India.
Department of Health.
...
New Delhi, the 31st March, 1947.

From

Prem Krishen, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department, Madras.

Sub: Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever in India.

...

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the late Department of Education, Health and Lands letter No.F.44-3/40-H, dated the 8th September 1941, on the subject mentioned above and forward herewith a revised plan indicating the measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever in India based on the recommendations of the 8th Meeting of the Yellow Fever Committee held on the 23rd July, 1946.

2. The Government of India trust that the Government of Madras will have no objection, in case of need, to the dispatch of a diagnosis unit by the King Institute, Guindy on receipt of direct instructions from the Government of India to places outside the Province.

3. I am to request that, if the Provincial Governme have no objection, the steps indicated in the revised plan should be taken now so that in the event of the occurrence a case of yellow fever and until the arrival of the diagnosis unit the initial work in respect of treatment and nursing etc. of infected cases can be carried out by protected staff.

4. I am also to request an acknowledgement of recei of this letter and to say that the Government of India wou be glad if they could be informed in due course of the action ~~by the~~ taken by the Provincial Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant

Sd.....
Deputy Secretary.

Endorsement No.27167/47-2 E & P.H. dated 1-5-47.

Referred to the Surgeon-General for remarks in consultation with the Director of Public Health

Sd.....
1-5-47.

To the Surgeon General.
To the Director of Public Health.

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE CONTROL OF AN OUTBREAK OF YELLOW FEVER IN INDIA.

When a case or a suspected case of yellow fever occurs, the Emergency Yellow Fever Regulations (Printed as an Appendix) will be immediately brought into force. The measures which require to be taken fall under four headings: -

(I) Confirmation of diagnosis,
(II) Notification and isolation of cases,
(III) Inoculation, and
(IV) Mosquito control.

I. CONFIRMATION OF DIAGNOSIS:- (A) On the occurrence of a case of suspected case of yellow fever a diagnosis unit will proceed, as soon as possible, with the necessary equipment, to the place at which the case has occurred. The diagnosis unit which will each consist of one Medical Officer, one Laboratory assistant and two Laboratory attendants, will be provided by the Central Research ~~Instti~~ Institute, Kasauli, the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, the King Institute, Guindy and the Haffkine Institute, Bombay. Ordinarily the unit from the School of Tropical Medicine will be deputed to ~~paee~~ places in Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Orissa, the unit from the ~~In~~ King Institute to places within Madras Presidency, the Unit from Haffkine Institute to places within Bombay Presidency and the Unit from the Central Research Institute to all other places not referred to above (except where special alternative arrangement might be made by the Government of India). These different Institutes and the School of Tropical Medicine will at all times be prepared to despatch a unit with the necessary equipme without delay on the receipt of intimation. To ensure that the unit reaches the place of occurrence with the least possible delay the following procedure will be observed:-

(1) If the case or suspected case occurs in the Province of Bengal or Madras or Bombay, the Provincial Government concerned will inform the Central Government and the Director General, Indian Medical Service, by telegram of the occurrence and will despatch immediately a diagnosis unit from the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, or the King Institute, Guindy, or the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, as the case may be, to the place at which the case has occurred.

(2) If the case or suspected case occurs elsewhere than in the Provinces of Bengal, Madras or Bombay, the provincial or other Government concerned will inform the Central Government the Directors of the four Institutes where diagnosis units have been provided, and the Director General, Indian Medical Service, by telegram and request the despatch of a diagnotic unit. The action to despatch the diagnostic unit will only be taken by any of these Institutions under direct instruction from the Central Government.

(3) DIAGNOSIS:- Administrative Medical Officers would advise medical officers in charge of all hospitals and dispensaries (official and non-official) and private medical practitioners of the desirability of obtaining if possible when a case is suspected to be suffereing from yellow fever, a specimen of blood and, if the case proves fatal, a specimen of liver material either by post-mortem examination or by means o a viscerotome. Blood specimens should be taken and kept preferably in cold storage until the arrival of the diagnosis unit. The amount of blood should be not less than 20c.c. Small portions of liver suitable for histological examination will be placed in 10 per cent formal saline for examination by the unit.

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B. LABORATORY ACCOMMODATION :- In Calcutta this is available at the School of Tropical Medicine, in Bombay at the Haffkine Institute, in Karachi at the Public Health Laboratory, and in Madras at the King Institute, Guindy. Should an outbreak occur at any place other than these cities, the administrative Medical Officer of the Province etc., ~~concerned~~ concerned will place whatever local Laboratory accommodation is available at the disposal of the diagnosis unit.

II. NOTIFICATION AND ISOLATION OF CASES:- On the occurrence of a case or a suspected case of yellow fever the provincial or other Government concerned will forthwith make provision for

(1) the immediate notification of all cases of fever accompanied by jaundice,

(2) the immediate notification of all cases of fever in which death occurs within ten days ,

(3) the isolation of all ~~persons whom~~ cases declared by the competent health authority as suffering from or suspected to be suffering from yellow fever.

(4) the isolation of all persons whom the competent authority considers to have been exposed to risk of infection with yellow fever.

Provision for the notification of cases is made in regulation 6 and for the isolation of cases in regulations 4, 6 and 17 of the Emergency Yellow Fever Regulations.

NOTE: (i) Yellow Fever should be a notifiable disease in all urban areas and as far as possible, in all rural areas.

(ii) In order to make practicable the enforcement of compulsory isolation of yellow fever cases and contacts, Administrative Medical Officers should earmark certain wards in hospitals for the accommodation of such persons. These wards should be capable of being mosquito-proofed without difficulty or delay; pending the completion of this mosquito proofing, cases and contacts can be protected from mosquitoes by the use of mosquito nets, the application of anti-mosquito cream and the lavish use of pyrethrum etc. insecticide.

III. INOCULATION:- Each province should maintain a list of personnel to undertake ward and nursing duties; this list should include a suitable number of medical officers, nurses, and other staff and should be previously protected against yellow fever. Arrangements for the supply of the requisite amount of vaccine will be made by the Director-General, Indian Medical Service on demand by the unit or the local heal authorities.

IV MOSQUITO CONTROL: (1) When information is received by him of a case or suspected case of yellow fever, instructions will be issued by the Director General, Indian Medical Service for a mosquito control unit from the Malaria Institute of India Delhi, to proceed with necessary equipment to the scene of the outbreak. The unit will consist of the following staff:-

One Medical Officer
One Entomologist
One Malaria Assistant and
Two Insect Collectors.

At the same time instructions will be issued by the Director General, Indian Medical Service, to the nearest Medical Store Depot to despatch by passenger train 50 hand sprayers, 10 gallons of pyrethrum or other insecticide and 10 lbs. of

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of antimosquito cream to the local Medical Officer of Health. Pending the arrival of the mosquito control unit the Medical Officer of Health will start intensive spraying operations with pyrethrum or other insecticide in the infected house, in any house or building visited by the patient during one week before he developed symptoms, and in the buildings surrounding the infected house for at least 400 yards in every direction. He will also take steps to ensure that every forbid entry into any infected building or buildings until they have been throughly sprayed. He will also take steps to ensure that every collection of water or water container within the infected house or within 400 yards of it, which is not mosquito proofed, will be emptied or treated with oil, phenyl or pyrethrum or other insecticide.

(2) Should the case or suspected case of yellow fever occur in a port area, measures similar to those prescribe for the Medical Officer of Health will be taken by the Port Health Officer to whom the hand sprayers and supplies of insecticide and anti-mosquito cream will be despatched.

(3) The Health Officer of the area and his staff should continue to carry out mosquito control operations in accordance with the advice of the Officer in Charge of the mosquito control unit. The latter should be provided by the Provincial Government etc., concerned with such equipment and staff as he considers essential for the carrying out of anti-mosquito measures.

(4) The legal powers which are required to carry out effective mosquito control on these lines are provided in regulations 8 to 16 and in regulation 19 of the Emergency Yellow Fever Regulations.

SUMMARY.

Preliminary measures to ensure the effective execution of the various control measures which will be necessary on the occurrence of a case.

(a) Yellow Fever should be a notifiable disease in all urban areas and as far as possible, in all rural areas.

(b) Administrative Medical Officers should advise medical officers incharge of all hospitals and dispensaries (official and non-official) and private practitioners of the desirability of obtaining if possible, when a case is suspected to be suffering from yellow fever, a specimen of blood and, if the case proves fatal, a specimen of liver material either by post-mortem examination or by means of a viscerotome. Blood speciments should be taken and kept in cold storage until the arrival of the expert diagnosis unit. The amount of blood should be not less than 20 c.c. Small portions of liver suitable for histological examination should be placed in 10 per cent formol saline for examination by the unit.

(c) Copies of the pamphlet entitled "Yellow Fever" and of the "Yellow Fever Diagnostic Chart" should be distributed to medical officers and private practitioners.

(d) Administrative Medical Officers should be in possession of one or more viscerotomes for issue when required to the hospital concerned or to the medical attendant in charge of a case.

(e) Administrative Medical Officers should earmark certain wards in hospitals for the isolation of yellow fever cases and contacts.

2. IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN ON THE OCCURRENCE OF A CASE OR A SUSPECTED CASE OF YELLOW FEVER.

(1) By the Central Government and the Director General, Indian Medical Service:-

(a) The despatch of a diagnosis unit, to proceed with necessary equipment to the scene of the outbreak from (i) the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, or (ii) the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, or (iii) the King Institute, Guindy, or (iv) the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, as the case may.be.

(b) The despatch of a mosquito control unit from the Malaria Institute of India, Delhi with the necessary equipment, to the scene of the outbreak.

(c) The issue of instructions to the Medical Store Depot which is nearest to the scene of outbreak, to despatch by passenger train 50 lbs. of anti-mosquito cream to the local Medical Officer of Health or the Port Health Officer as the case may be.

(2) By the Provincial Government:- (a) Intimation by telegram to the Central Government and the Director General, Indian Medical Service, of a case or a suspected case of yellow fever.

(b) The promulgation of the Emergency Yellow Fever Regulations.

(c) The notification of the affected area as notified area (Regulation 3).

(d) The appointment of a Medical Officer of Health for the area if one does not already exist, and of the necessary additional staff (Regulation4).

(e) The designation of a mosquito-proofed building or buildings for the accommodation of cases or suspected cases and contacts (Regulation 4).

(f) The provision of staff for anti-mosquito measures on the scale required by the officer in charge of the mosquito control unit (Regulation 10(c)).

3. BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: (a) The prohibition of entry of any person into the building in which a case or suspected case of yellow fever occurs (Regulation 7).

(b) The removal of cases, suspected cases and contacts to the mosquito proofed building designated by Government of the accommodation of such persons (Regulation (Regulation 6).

(c) The disinsectisation of such building and of the surrounding buildings for at least 400 yards in every direction and of any other building visited by the patient during one week before he developed symptoms (Regulation 8).

CONFIDENTIAL.

Medical Department.

From

Col.S.L. Bhatia, CIE.MC.VHS.MA.MD.(CANTAB). FRCP (LOND). FRS (E).IMS.,
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras,
Madras. 6.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department.

Ref. No.3261-G-47. Dated 1st September 1947.

Sir,

Ref: - Government Memorandum No. 27167-4 E.1 P.H. dated 26-7-47.

Sub: - Epidemics - Yellow Fever - measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever.

Various suggestions have been made by the Expert Committee appointed by Government for combating epidemics of unexpected magnitude. In the list of epidemics, influenza, Cholera, small-pox, malaria, typhus fever, relapsing fever and plague are included. Yellow fever is not however mentioned in G.O.No.2278 P.H. dated 3-9-45. The recommendations of the Expert Committee for the control of epidemics which are now under consideration of Government may be applied in the case of epidemics of Yellow fever also. Early orders of Government on the recommendations of the Committee may kindly be issued.

2. The object of maintaining a list of personnel to undertake ward and nursing duties is to provide a nucleus staff which could be straightaway taken to the infected area in an emergency. The personnel selected should receive protective inoculation against yellow fever. This can be arranged in the King Institute of in any of the hospitals selected for sending the required personnel for epidemic work. Inoculation of personnel from outside the Province will be done by an officer of the King Institute.

3. Apart from the travelling allowance of the officer from the Institute, there will not be any extra expenditure for preliminary plans to combat yellow fever. The expenditure will be incurred when yellow fever is suspected to have arisen in any ~~locatio~~ locality necessitating the despatch of such units.

Your obedient servant,

Sd xx xx xx

For Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

Education and Public Health

Letter No. 27167/47-6 E.&P.H. dated 7-10-47.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry Health, New Delhi.

Sir,

Sub: Epidemics - Yellow Fever - Measures to be taken for the control of.

In continuation of this Department's letter No.27167/47 1.E&PH. dated 26-4-47 on the subject cited above, I am directed to state that this Government generally agree to adopt the revised plan regarding the measures to be taken for the control of an epidemic of yellow fever. This Government have also no objection to the proposal to despatch a diagnostic unit from the King Institute, Guindy, to places outside the province on receipt of instructions from the Government of India. This is subject to the presumption that there will be no extra cost to this Government. A nucleus staff consisting of a suitable number of medical officers , nurses and other staff previously protected against yellow fever will also be maintained to undertake ward and nursing duties.

2. In this connection I am directed to enquire by whom the cost of the diagnostic unit from the King Institute, Guindy, in case it is despatched outside the Province will be met. This Government would be glad to have a reply on this point at an early date.

Sd.....
11-9-47.

Copy to the Director of Public Health.
Copy to the Surgeon General, with reference to his letter No. 32615-G-47 dt 1.9.47.

Education and Public Health.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sub: Epidemics - Yellow fever - Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever.
Ref.: From the Surgeon General Reference No.. 32615 - 3G, dated 19-6-47.
From the Surgeon General Ref. No.32615 G-47 dated 1-9-47

Memo. 27167/47-7 E.&.PH. dated 16-10-47.

With reference to para 1 of his letter cited above, the Surgeon General is informed that in view of the enormous expenditure involved , the Government do not propose at present to proceed with the recommendations of the Expert Committee.

2. As regards para 2 of his letter, it is presumed that the Surgeon General would take immediate ~~step~~ steps to maintain the required standing list of personnel to undertake the necessary ward and nursing duties and make provision for their protective inoculation against yellow fever at the King Institute, Guindy or in any of the hospitals selected for the purpose. He is requested to see that necessary vaccine equipment etc. are provided in the selected hospitals so that inoculation may be done at a moments notice.

3. It presumed that no extra expenditure will be involved in making these preliminary plans.

Sd.....
15-10-47

To The Surgeon General, Madras.

Confidential
Ref.No.32615-G-47

Office of the Surgeon-General
with the Govt. of Madras,
Madras 6, dated 2nd. December
1947.

From

Dr.S.L.Bhatia, CIE.,MC.VHS.MA.MD(CANTAB),FRCP(LOND
FRS(E),
Surgeon General with the Government of Madras,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department.

Sir,

Reference:- Grant Confidential memorandum No.27167/47/4.El P.H. dated 16-10-1947.

Subject:- Epidemics - Yellow Fever - Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of Yellow fever.

I forward herewith for the information of the Government a copy of the letter Rc.No.29010/C2/47 dated 10-11-1947 received from the Director, King Institute, Guindy on the above subject.

Your obedient servant,
Sd.....
for Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

Copy of letter R.C.No.29010/C2/47 dated 10-11-47 from the Director, King Institute, Guindy, Madras, to the Surgeon General with the Government of Madras, Madras.

Reference:- Your Confidential Memorandum No. 32615-G-47 dated 20-10-1947 communicating copy of Government memorandum No.27167/47-7 El P.H. dated 16-10-1947, regarding Epidemics- Yellow Fever Measures to be taken for the control of an out break.

In the Government Memorandum under reference, it has been stated that necessary vaccine, i.e., Yellow Fever vaccine should be stocked in selected hospitals so that inoculation could be done at a moment notice. I regaret this is not possible. The vaccine has to be stored at a temperature of at least - 5°C. or even lower, and such facilities do not exist in the hospitals. The vaccine is issued in a dried form, and requires to be diluted by special technique. I suggest that the Government may be informed of this. Arrangements will ofcourse,be made to despatch the vaccine from the Institute immediatly on receipt of a requisition from the hospital concerned and one of the Institute officers would be deputed to do the inoculations in the first instance.

/True copy/

Sd.....
for Surgeon-General with the Govt. of Mad

No.F.30-16(2)/47-PH(II).
Government of India.
Ministry of Health.
****

New Delhi, the 5th January, 1948.

From

P.S.Doraswami, Esquire, B.A.,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Department of Education and Public Health,
MADRAS.

Subject:- Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever in India.

With reference to para 2 of your letter No.Ms. No.27167/47-6 E.(PH), dated the 7th October, 1947, on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to say that the cost of the despatch of a diagnostic unit from the King Institute, Guindy, outside the Province will be borne by the Government of the area concerned to which it will be despatched.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd.....
Assistant Secretary.

Education and Public Health

Subject:- Epidemics - Yellow Fever - Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever..

Reference:- From the Surgeon General, Ref.No.32615-G-47, dated 2-12-47.

Memo. 27167/47-10.E&PH dated 22-1-48.

The Surgeon General is informed that the Government agree with the views of the Director King Institute, Guindy, contained in his letter dated 19-11-47 enclosed with the letter cited above.

Sd.....

22-1-48.

geon-General.

P.T.O.

Education and Public Health.

Please see the Finance Department note above.

The papers may now be 'RECORDED'.

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3-3-48.

G.O.Ms.664 PH. Dated 3-3-48.

Abstract.

Epidemics - Yellow fever - Measures to be taken for the control of an outbreak of yellow fever - Revised plan - Papers from the Government of India.- Recorded.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.